



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 17 2011

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF **E-19J**

Ms. Phyllis Green, Superintendant  
Isle Royale National Park  
800 East Lakeshore Drive  
Houghton, Michigan 49931

Re: Comments for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan (WBMP) for Isle Royale National Park, Michigan – EIS No. 20110331

Dear Ms. Green:

In accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 5 has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan (WBMP) for Isle Royale National Park.

In the WBMP/EIS, The National Park Service proposes numerous alternatives for the management, public use and environmental preservation of Isle Royale National Park. The EIS addresses issues and provides guidelines for managing the wilderness and backcountry areas of the Park. The WBMP describes a hybrid preferred alternative for managing the following: 1) overnight use (Alternative B), 2) day use (Alternative C), 3) campfires (Alternative B), 4) fire towers (Alternative B), and 5) picnic tables (Alternative C). The document describes the no-action alternative, Alternative A, in addition to numerous other alternatives for each of the management objectives.

In our December 20, 2005 comment letter, EPA rated the Draft EIS and WBMP as *Lack of Objections, LO*. Based upon our review of the Final EIS, we maintain our lack of objections to the hybrid Preferred Alternative and the proposed project.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the Final EIS and WBMP. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Shanna Horvatin of my staff at (312) 886-7887 or via email at [horvatin.shanna@epa.gov](mailto:horvatin.shanna@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth A. Westlake", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth A. Westlake  
Chief, NEPA Implementation Section  
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance